

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/731,999	LAURENT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel Yeagley	3611	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/8/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 9-19.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

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## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview and proposed amendment with Carl Wischhusen on 10/26/05.

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Structural platform for a motor vehicle, the structural platform comprising a tank for the storage on the vehicle of a fluid under pressure, the tank comprising at least one network of containers integrally formed in the structural platform and connected together via interconnections, the interconnections being conformed so that the flow of fluid caused by the consumption of fluid necessary for the use of the vehicle exhibits only pressure drops not affecting the use, and being conformed so that, in the event of rupture of one or more containers, the leakage flow causes sufficiently high pressure drops to limit the flow rate thereof, wherein the structural platform forms a load-bearing component of the vehicle, wherein the structural platform integrates a second independent tank for storing another different fluid, and the second tank comprises at least one network of containers connected together via interconnections, the interconnections being conformed so that the flow of fluid caused by the consumption of fluid necessary for the use of the vehicle exhibits only pressure drops not affecting the use, and being conformed so that, in the event of rupture of one or more containers, the leakage flow causes sufficiently high pressure drops to limit the flow rate thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) Structural platform for a motor vehicle, the structural platform comprising a tank for the storage on the vehicle of a fluid under pressure, the tank comprising at least one network of containers connected together via interconnections, the interconnections being conformed so that the flow of fluid caused by the consumption of fluid necessary for the use of the vehicle exhibits only pressure drops not affecting the use, and being conformed so that, in the event of rupture of one or more containers, the leakage flow causes sufficiently high pressure drops to limit the flow rate thereof, wherein at least one network of at least a hundred and no more than a hundred thousand containers are connected together via interconnections.

3. (Currently Amended) Structural platform according to Claim 2 [1], each interconnection being formed by an orifice.

4. (Currently Amended) Structural platform according to Claim 2 [1], in which each container comprises a central part whose wall is substantially cylindrical and a cap at each end.

5. (Currently Amended) Structural platform according to Claim 2 [1], comprising several networks of containers connected in series, the networks being connected in parallel.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) Structural platform for a motor vehicle, forming a tank for the storage on the vehicle of a fluid under pressure, the tank comprising at least one network of containers connected together via interconnections, the interconnections being conformed so that the flow of fluid caused by the consumption of fluid necessary for the use of the vehicle exhibits only pressure drops not affecting the use, and being conformed so that, in the event of rupture of one or more containers, the leakage flow causes sufficiently high pressure drops to limit the flow rate thereof, the structural platform comprising a base which comprises as many recesses as there are containers, the base having a flattened shape having a first face and an opposite face substantially parallel to the first face, the recesses all extending from the first face to the opposite face and all opening out at the first face and not opening out at the opposite face, each recess being closed by a cover sealingly fixed so as to form a container, orifices being provided in the base in order to put the recesses in communication.

10. (Previously Presented) Structural platform according to Claim 9, in which each recess comprises a first part with a substantially cylindrical shape, extending between the first face and an intermediate level situated between the first face and the opposite face, each recess comprising a second part extending the first part and comprising a wall forming a cap.

11. (Original) Structural platform according to Claim 9, in which each cover comprises a trunk whose wall is substantially cylindrical and with an outside diameter smaller than or equal to the inside diameter of the first part of each recess, each cover comprising a bottom, all the covers being inserted and adhesively bonded in the recesses.

12. (Original) Structural platform according to Claim 9, in which each cover is screwed into recesses, with the interposing of a seal.

13. (Currently Amended) Structural platform according to Claim 1 [8], in which, between the tank and the second tank, a separation area with no containers is left.

14. (Currently Amended) Structural platform according to Claim 1 [8], in which, between the tank and the second tank, a separation area is left, provided with containers which do not communicate with the containers of the adjacent tanks.

15. (Currently Amended) Vehicle equipped with a structural platform according to Claim 2 [1], the structural platform at least partially forming a floor of the vehicle on which various components of the vehicle are mounted.

16. (Previously Presented) Vehicle according to Claim 15, comprising a fuel container, the tank integrated in the structural platform providing the storage of gaseous hydrogen.

17. (Previously Presented) Vehicle according to Claim 16, comprising a fuel container and two tanks integrated in the structural platform, one of the tanks providing the storage of gaseous hydrogen and the other tanks providing the storage of gaseous oxygen.

18. (Currently Amended) Structural platform according to Claim 2 [1], wherein the containers are arranged in a plane and have central axes perpendicular to the plane.

19. (Currently Amended) Structural platform for a motor vehicle, the structural platform comprising a tank for the storage on the vehicle of a fluid under pressure, the tank comprising at least one network of containers integrally formed in the structural platform and connected together via interconnections, the interconnections being conformed so that the flow of fluid caused by the consumption of fluid necessary for the use of the vehicle exhibits only pressure drops not affecting the use, and being conformed so that, in the event of rupture of one or more containers, the leakage flow causes sufficiently high pressure drops to limit the flow rate thereof, wherein the structural platform forms a load-bearing component of the vehicle, and [Structural platform according to Claim 1,] wherein each of inner ones of the containers is adjacent to at least six other containers.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Yeagley whose telephone number is (571)-272-6655. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri; first Friday off.

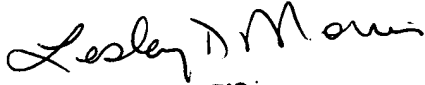
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley D. Morris can be reached on (571) - 272 - 6651. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

D.Y.

  
**LESLEY D. MORRIS**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
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